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INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNTRY Venezuela

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**SUBJECT** Communist Activities in Caripito Area

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1. In the vicinity of Caripito, State of Monagas, Venezuela, the two Venezuelan Communist Parties are active, although they have small memberships. [REDACTED] believes that the Partido Revolucionario del Proletariado-Comunista (PRP - black) is larger than the Partido Comunista de Venezuela (PCV - red), but neither has more than 35 members.
2. Handbills are passed out by both parties from time to time, mainly by the PRP. Two were circulated in October 1949 protesting the El Dorado imprisonment of political prisoners, and one in January 1950 protesting the conditions in the Andres Bello School (Creole Petroleum-financed) in Caripito. Both the Tribuna Popular and PRP (a weekly publication of the PRP) are distributed, the former receiving substantial circulation among the workers. Neither Communist group receives government cooperation.
3. There is at present no PRP-controlled syndicate in the area, although the leader of the Sindicato de Trabajadores de Petroleo (STP) de Caripito, Atilio Gonzalez, is believed to be a PRP member. This syndicate is classed as an independent group and includes factions from all parties. The only PCV syndicate in Caripito is the Sindicato de Marineros y Petroleros y Mercantes (SIMPM) del Distrito Bolivar, whose membership includes most of the crews of coastal vessels working out of the Caripito port. Pedro Anez is the professional Claims Chief of this group, having replaced Ramon Antonio Delgado.
4. Communist penetration of the Andres Bello School, which is financed by the Creole Petroleum Corporation, was successful until recently, when parents of the students complained that certain of the teachers were teaching Communist doctrines and were stirring up anti-American feelings. As the teachers are carried on the company payrolls, it is the company's intention, [REDACTED] to fail to rehire three of the teachers for the fall term. These three are Jose Neptali Mota P., Rafael Marie Sarmiento Godoy\*, and Luis Beltran Lopez. Guillermo Lovera Lovera, who was born in Coro, is sub-director of the school and is [REDACTED] to be a leftist, although not a Communist. Another teacher, Felix Diaz Nunez, who owns a multigraph machine, is believed to have printed a number of the handbills which have been distributed in the Creole camp area.

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5. Gonzalez, Mota, Sarmiento, and Diaz were arrested by the police on 17 December 1949, together with a group of others, but they were later released.

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\*           Comment: A Rafael Sarmiento Godoy was a candidate for Deputy from the State of Barinas on the PCV ticket in the 1947 elections.

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